

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A multi-source surround audio apparatus for, in accordance with an instruction from a user, performing selective
5 surround sound reproduction of audio signals which are inputted from a plurality of sound sources including a DVD, the apparatus comprising:

sound source detection means for detecting a sound source of an inputted audio signal based on the instruction from the user;

10 DVD audio signal reproduction means for, if the detected sound source is a DVD, reproducing the DVD to generate a DVD reproduced audio signal;

reproduced signal determination means for determining whether the DVD reproduced audio signal is a 5.1-channel digital
15 surround audio signal or a 2-channel digital audio signal and generating a determination signal indicating a result of the determination; and

a digital surround effector for, if the determination signal indicates that the DVD reproduced audio signal is a
20 5.1-channel digital surround audio signal, converting the DVD reproduced audio signal to a 2-channel digital surround audio signal.

2. The multi-source surround audio apparatus according
25 to claim 1, further comprising:

an analog surround effector for converting an audio signal to a 2-channel surround audio signal; and

first effector driving means for, if the DVD reproduced audio signal is a 2-channel digital audio signal, activating the analog surround effector to convert the DVD reproduced audio signal to a 2-channel surround audio signal.

3. The multi-source surround audio apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an analog surround effector for converting an audio signal to a 2-channel surround audio signal;

audio signal reproduction means for, if the detected sound source is not a DVD, extracting an audio signal from the sound source and generating a reproduced audio signal therefrom;

and

second effector driving means for activating the analog surround effector to convert the reproduced audio signal to a 2-channel surround audio signal.